



**Ross Valley Safe Routes to Schools Task Force  
Friday, September 20, 2019  
Meeting Notes**

**Attendance**

Hadar Albo- Parisi Associates, Brian Colbert-San Anselmo Town Council, Sean Fahy- Central Marin Police, Gwen Froh- Safe Routes to Schools, Bret Joyner- Operations Ross Valley School District, Mark Reagan- Ross Valley School District, Scott Schneider- DPW San Anselmo, Nancy Vernon-County of Marin, Kelly Zalewski- Marin Transit, Tarrell Kullaway- Marin County Bicycle Coalition, Peggy Clark and Wendi Kallins- Safe Routes to Schools

**Updates and Reports**

**San Anselmo**

The town is working with Parisi Associates on a study of uncontrolled crosswalks; approximately 30 locations. The locations do not have stop signs or lights. Results of the study should be completed in October.

Brookside School to Fairfax (Rosemont Ave to Fairfax Town limit) proposed sidewalk is under primimalary design. Once options are developed public meetings will be scheduled for review and collect feedback.

The Bike Spine now has more sharrows graphics throughout town. The first half of the route is well defined at Saunders the route is less clear to San Anselmo Ave/ Butterfield. The DPW needs to work Safe Routes to School and Parisi Assoc to complete the route and approval for the suggested route maps.

San Anselmo DPW submitted funding requests to TAM. The flashing light at Saunders was included along with a few other projects requiring funding. Note: the Saunders project was funded.

**Baywood Canyon Road**

Nancy's office would like to lean if students traveling along Sir Frances Drake Blvd toward Whites Hill can use Baywood Canyon Rd to cycle on. There is a plan to meet with the residents and a specific homeowner who long ago approved students passing through his property to access a trail.Re-stripping the road is preferred however it cannot be included in the current project or funded at this time.

**Butterfield Road update**

The neighborhood committee is still considering options for how to manage the area where parents are placing cones to restrict parking at the turn onto Green Valley Court. One option is

to restrict parking; then drivers would use it as a turn lane or make it a designated bike lane (no vehicles).

### **Eyes Up Campaign**

The community based social media campaign started up in September and will run through the first week of October. All County partners are being asked to share the information to increase the number of viewers. The goal is to change behavior and asks people to turn off their phones while driving. TAM currently funds Street Smarts; support for Eyes Up may be requested in the future. It is a challenge to measure behavior change. When data can be collected and measured this will help secure funding. A suggestion was made to approach the mobile phone companies for funding.

The focus of this grassroots campaign is to change behavior. Awareness is the first step; people identifying the problem and what they can do to help facilitate change. A survey was included with the campaign. There were approximately 400 responses with 68% agreeing to turn off their phones while driving.

Some ideas to encourage behavior change are: drivers use cruise control when appropriate, pace cars- drivers have a sign in their rear window stating they are driving the speed limit, bumper stickers with "eyes up". Students can encourage behavior with adults; Safe Routes to Schools is educating the future to model the changes needed to increase safety and encourage parents to driver safer for them. .

### **Yellow Bus program**

Marin Transit conducted a meeting on September 19: attending organization included, members of the town councils, school district and San Anselmo and Fairfax representatives.

The program started off well this year. Many of the bus drivers returned. Michaels Service and Marin Transit have developed a good partnership.

White Hill afternoon busses are full. The AM buses have a lower number of riders; this could be a result of a large grade 8 class. These students start school for first period vs the AM zero period. There were 66 students on the waitlist; they already have passes and use the service; they just prefer to be on a different bus.

Hidden Valley rider numbers are down. It seems some families feel the cost is too high for such a short distance; there for they drive. Others see the value to reduce/avoid traffic

### **Mapping updates**

These maps were presented for review:

Hidden Valley

Brookside

Manor

White Hill

The Yellow Bus routes will be removed from the maps. People feel it made the maps too confusing. Links to the Yellow Bus routes will be provided. Fairfax DPW has signed off on San Anselmo schools, Fairfax still needs to review local school maps. Safe Routes awaits the Bike Spine final designs in order to produce a map for Wade Thomas.

### Comments

Wade Thomas School: The bike spine on Richmond Rd is a challenge. During school hours drivers park on both sides of the street making it very narrow. In some situations a narrow street encourages driver to slow down. TA suggested route on Kensington Rd would require a longer ride/route to the school. This road typically has less traffic. Route road stencils were suggested; similar to the ones on Sycamore in Mill Valley to increase awareness for the student riders.

The next steps: Wendi will get in touch with Fairfax to sign-off on map and the County will need to sign off on the Hidden Valley map. Mark agreed to work with Wendi to get the maps out to the schools. In the future “park and walk” location will be identified on the maps. All the maps will be digital; this will help to make updates as needed and to make them available to more community members.

### Safe Routes activities

Gwen suggested the school district post “no idling” signs at all the schools. The Air Quality District has free signs available. They can be used to encourage more students to walk. Miller Creek Middle School hosted a challenge to stop vehicles from idling on campus. Safe Routes has that data available.

Safe Routes to Schools will be supporting the following programs this year. program

- Walk and Roll Wednesday- every Wednesday for the school year.
- Green Sneaker Challenge- really making a difference starting early
- lwalk day Oct 2: participation of all council members is encouraged.
- SR2S Share the Road: last year 400 freshman students were presented this curriculum. It includes information for pedestrians and cyclists; identifying the hazards of being distracted while driving, walking or cycling.

Bret Joyner will be retiring soon. All thanked him for his years of service and support.

### Next meeting

Friday, Feb 28, 2020